receiving channel guide information;

receiving a user-entered search request;

performing continuously until said search request is turned off, a search of said channel guide information for a program in said channel guide information having program description that satisfies said user-entered request;

recording automatically without user intervention, a program which is found in said performing step having program description that satisfies said user-entered request.

17. The method of claim 16 wherein the user-enter search request may be modified when the performing step is on-going.

18. The method of claim 16, wherein the program description comprising at least one of the following information about the program: title, star, director, rating, and plot.

REMARKS

New claims 13-18 are directed to the "watchdog" aspect of the present invention. This relates to the aspect that a search function of the present invention may be run continuously in the background, until the search instruction is turned off by a user. This aspect of the present invention is supported by at least pg. 8, lines 3 - 26, Figs. 2, 3, 7 of the present specification.

In Office Action dated July 5, 2000, for the parent of the present divisional application, this aspect of the invention was rejected as being unpatentable over Yoshinobu (US 5,686,954) in view of Ferguson (US 5649186). Applicants respectfully disagree with that holding.
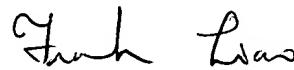
Applicants respectfully submit that, in particular, Ferguson does not teach or suggest the raw incoming data is "*continuously* filtered in order to update a customized newspaper", as contended by Examiner (see pg. 2, section 1 of Action). Examiner specifically pointed to the Abstract of Ferguson for this particular characterization. Applicants have examined the Abstract and the rest of Ferguson carefully and have not found any explicit or implicit teaching that the filtering in Ferguson is done "continuously" as in the present invention.

In fact, on the contrary, Ferguson clearly teaches that the user needs to enter an "update preference (e.g., daily, weekly, or monthly)" so that the system knows at what frequency to update the search results. This aspect of Ferguson is clearly described for example, on col. 5, lines 38 – 46 of Ferguson. Therefore, Ferguson clearly teaches away from the present invention where the search is "...*performing continuously until said search request is turned off*, a search of said channel guide information..." (see, e.g., claim 29. Ferguson, in the opposite, requires the filtering to be performed "periodically" and requires the user to specify a period (daily, weekly, or monthly).

CONCLUSION

Based on the above discussion, it is respectfully submitted that the present pending claims should be allowed over the prior art of record.

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